

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 01111 120032 Z

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 NIC-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 RSR-01 /105 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4208

INFO CINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 1111

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, UY

SUBJ : CNT REPLIES TO THE MILITARY

CINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: MVD 1091

1. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMUNIST- DOMINATED CNT CONFEDERATION APRIL 10 REPLIED TO JOINT SERVICE CHIEFS' ATTACK (COMMUNIQUE OF APRIL 9, REFTEL) WITH MILD AND DEFENSIVE STATEMENT THAT THE " OLIGARCHY" AND NOT THE LABOR CONFEDERATION WAS TO BLAME FOR THE COUNTRY' S PROBLEMS. CNT' S COMMUNIQUE REPEATS MANY OF POINTS MADE IN STATEMENT OF CNT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER GERARDO CUESTA REPORTED REFTEL. WHILE AT NO TIME ATTACKING THE MILITARY, THE CNT COMMUNIQUE REMINDS THE ARMED FORCES THAT DURING THE MILITARY' S CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRESIDENT LAST FEBRUARY, THE CONFEDERATION EFFECTIVELY SUPPORTED THE MILITARY BY DEMANDING BORDABERRY' S RESIGNATION. PRESUMABLY IN DEFERENCE TO THE MILITARY' S RECENT SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT BORDABERRY, THE CNT COMMUNIQUE FOCUSES ON THE " OLIGARCHY" MORE THAN THE PRESIDENT AS THE SOURCE OF CURRENT PROBLEMS. AND FINALLY, THE CNT REJECTS ANY ATTEMPT TO INTRODUCE NEW LABOR LEGISLATION, AS BEING A RUSE FOR DENYING AND NOT GUARANTEEING TRADE UNION RIGHTS.

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2. THE CNT HAS CALLED AN URGENT PLENARY MEETING OF THE SENIOR OFFICERS OF AL ITS AFFILIATED FEDERATIONS FOR APRIL 12 TO DISCUSSS THE MILITARY COMMUNIQUE.

3. COMMENT: THE " MODERATE" LINE HAS THUS FAR PREVAILED WITHIN THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF THE CNT. THE MAJORITY GROUP PRESUMABLY WILL ATTEMPT TO AVOID AN OPEN CONFRONTATON WITH THE MILITARY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. IT WOULD NOW APPEAR THAT THEIR CHANCES FOR DOING THIS FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD ARE SMALL, GIVEN THE " RADICAL" PRESSURES WITHIN THE CNT AND THE ISSUES LIKELY TO ARISE WHICH COULD PROVOKE A CONFRONTATION (REFTEL).
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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